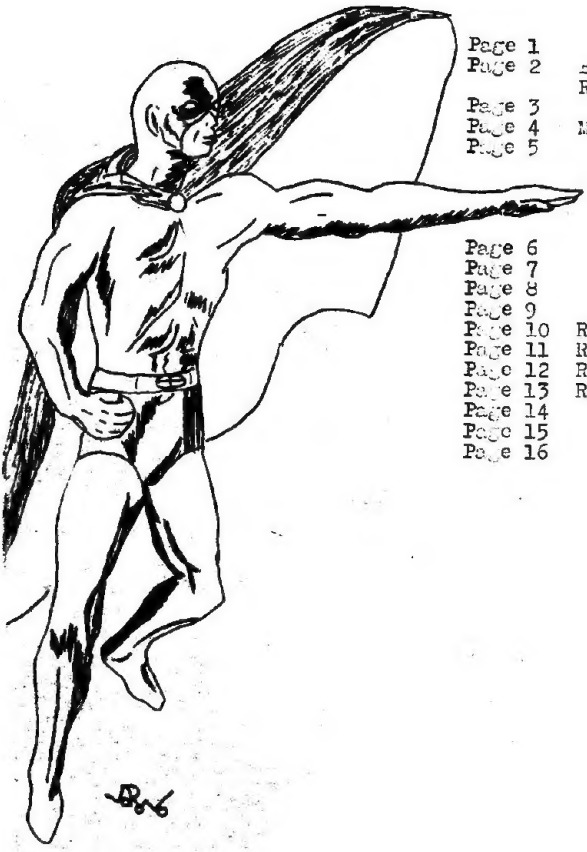
COLLECTOR 34
A FACT ZINE
DOUBLE ISSUE
MINI-CON IN PITTS REPORT!!



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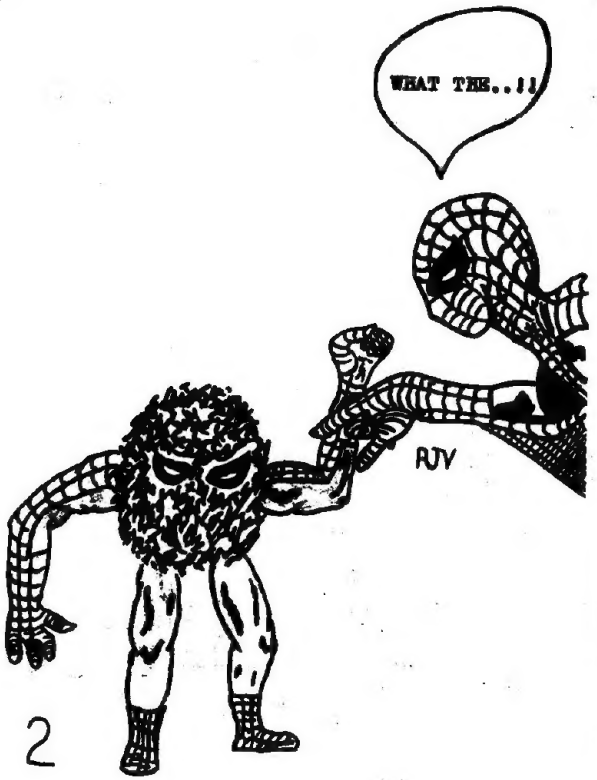


Editorial!?!!?

Well gang, here we are in another ish of THE COLLECTOR. This issue is everything I said it would be; maybe even more. Some of you out there probably think you wasted 30¢ on a crudzine, but actually, with all the articles, art, great front and back covers, and the fact every issue is sent in an envelope flat and by first class mail, you're actually getting a bargain! But, even though I spend as much time as possible on each issue, and do the best I can, there are still some who think otherwise. In my opinion, quality is what counts. This issue could have been very easily made into 20 pages; if that's what I'd have wanted it to be. With this rush to meet my publication date, and if I had tried to add four more pages, these pages would have probably been any thing at all I got my hands on; so that I could get the issue out on time. Even though I try to get the best for The Collector, this could most assuradly been the sad case. Anyway, I hope most of you like it.

Special thanks go to Rod Van Sickle (new head of A.C.E.) for the art by John Weibel and the article by Rick Howe. Also, thanks go to Marshall Lanz, Howard Diehl, and Mark Dillman for their artwork.

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT THE CRIMEFIGHTER STRIP.....The first episode on page 8, was originally done for a single issue. Mark, after seeing the back page of The Collector #2 (about double issue), decided that he should get two episodes in this issue, since it is doubled. This is the reason why the last panel explains that the next episode is to appear in the next issue; yet it appears on the next page. (By the way, please DO NOT order the next issue. you will be notified when it is ready for mailing. If everyone follows these simple rules, it will surely warm the cockles of my heart. (and surely will NOT fill the emptiness in my pocket; oh well, easy come, easy go))

And, as a special feature next issue, a special reprint article by me, from way back in TWTC, will be here in the pages of TC. The title? "BATMAN & ROBIN, YESTERDAY & TODAY PART I". Yes, this is the article that was printed in The Men From The Comics #1, the first zine I ever did. In this small zine, (I made and sold 25) the first part of this article was presented; but since there was never a second issue, the article was never finished. So, as an extra special feature, the final part will be presented. If you missed it the first time around, now you can catch up! If you saw the first part, you surely won't want to miss the second! Coming in the next ish of TC!

If anybody is interested, I have two copies of WITZEND #2 for sale for $1.00 each.

That's it for now, see ya next ish maybe; huh?

THE COLLECTOR is published on an irregular basis. Copies of #1 & #2 are still available for the price of 15¢ sent flat in envelope. NO subscriptions can be taken. Special double issue; Vol. 1, No. 3*4. Copies of this issue available for the price of 30¢@ in envelope. Please DO NOT order the next issue, as the contents and price are both indefinate. You will be notified when the next issue is ready for mailing. Circulation last issue: 145. All contents copyright 1967 William G. Wilson Jr. No part of this issue can be printed or reproduced in any form without permission from the editor.
Send all orders to: Bill Wilson,1535 Oneida Drive,Clairton, Pa.15025

by
Mark Dillman

Batman Annual #2 is full of 'em. (1) On the cover, bottom right hand side-BM and R are wearing kilts with white stockings. In the story Batman wears his leggings and regular boots instead, with kilts over them. Robin wears his regular boots.
(2) On the splash panel of the same story, "lord of Batmanor", page 11, the Duo are not wearing their kilts. In the same scene in the story they do wear kilts.
(3) On page 49 the R insignia on the Robin costume is missing.
(4) Did you know Batman of the planet Zur-En-Arrh resembles the TV Batman? Let's face it! He has purple cape, cowl, boots, and gloves like our campy TV version. He also has a bat on his utility belt buckle like Adam West's costume. Believe it or not, he's got an atomic powered Batmobile. You think the new look chest insignia is new? Ha! Look at Zur-En-Arrh's Batman insignia; a yellow moon surrounding it. This is from the story "Batman, Superman of PLanet X".
Now here's one from a more recent issue:
Detective #366 August, page three, panel four, Batman's left boot is green.

****

ODDITIES-----

In World's Finest #11, Fall 1949 on the 7th page of the Batman story, Panel three, BM's goggles are red. In the next panel they are yellow. ---B. Wilson

In WF #12, Winter 1949 on page 3 panel 5 & page 11 panel 4 of the Green Arrow story, GA's cap is yellow. Also in the same story, on page 5 panel 3, GA's left leg is yellow. ---B. Wilson

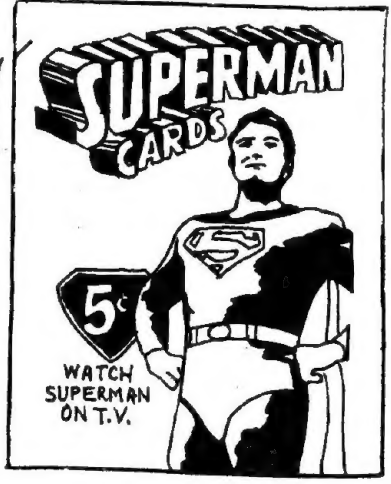
In The Phantom #24, August, all through the story "The Riddle of the Witch" the Girl Phantom is
(continued next column)

seen wearing a mask in one panel, then she doesn't in the next. This occurs in several places throughout the story. ---M. Dillman

A word from Mark Dillman-------
"While on vacation I watched a reall neat TV station: CKLW-TV channel nine in Windsor, Ontario. At 8:00 PM, Thursdays they show "Mad Mad Movies". I saw a preview of the next Mad movie starring Spy Smasher! I guess they show super hero serials all of the time. Anyhow, there was Smashysurrounded by Germans. The officer said "Take him to the cave!" In the cave Smasher was tied to a chair. His cape,cowl, and shirt was off. German officer: "I ask you again, are you an American spy?" Smashy: "Gasp! I won't answer!" German: "Whip him again!" It looked pretty good.

Maybe the Green Hornet doesn't exist but the name of the evening paper in Rome, N.Y. is THE DAILY SENTINAL! Honest!
-----Mark Dillman----------

Below is the wrapper of some Superman cards. Of these I need: #3,29,43,46,54,61. I have some for sale: 1¢@. Also want to know how many cards were in the set. ---Bill Wilson



FANFEST IN PENN HILLS

An Extensive Review Of The First Annual "Mini-Pittcon" in Pittsburgh
by Bill Wilson

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

On July 26th, I responded to an ad by Bill Schelly of Pittsburgh which I had noticed in RB-OO 52. I sent a 5¢ stamp for info on how to receive contributions by fellow fans for The Collector. Then, on August 4th, I received a reply from Bill. He informed me that he could no longer supply contributions, so he enclosed my stamp. But that wasn't all! He also informed me of a special fan meeting organized by Marshall Lanz (of Penn Hills) and himself which was to be held at Marsh's house (10411 Lindberg, Penn Hills) from August 16th thru to the 20th. He told me that there would be time for buying & trading comics, there was free room, & that there would be fans such as Ray Miller, Dave Esser, and pro Jim Shooter there. He suggested I write to Marsh and attend. So I did.

oOo oOo oOo oOo

On August 7th, I wrote a letter inquiring about the special fan meeting. I asked such things as "Will I be able to distribute free copies of my zine? About how many will be there? What type of entertainment will there be?" etc. Then, on August 11th, I received my reply from Marsh, giving me the complete information I needed. So, on Sunday August 13th, we decided to take a ride out to Penn Hills to see where he lived. After a not-too-long ride, we came upon a street sign which read "LINDBERG AVE.". Boy, did we find it fast! Anyway, we turned up and rode along slowly past every house, looking for 10411. Finally we saw it and we turned in a driveway at the top of the hill and turned around. We rode down and parked almost right in front. We got out and walked up to Mr.Lanz and asked him for Marsh. He suggested that we go up front, so we did. Mrs. Lanz answered the door, and as we stepped in, we saw Marsh finishing a talk on the phone. We shook hands, and about a minute later I found myself in Marsh's room. From the doorway one could see stacks of comics & fanzines, a drawing board, a desk with typewriter on top, and there on the wall above his chest of drawers was a framed picture of a Creepy character. Almost immediately, I was generously handed free copies of THE FORBUSH GAZETTE #1 & #2, GRAPHIC ART COLLECTOR'S INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN v2#3, MARVELMANIA #5, PANEL ART EXAMINER #6, BULLETIN #4, & FANTASY FORUM #1, all which had something to do with Marsh's work. He showed me some of his bought fanzines, some original zine art, some old and rare comics, and some material he has collected for the next issue of one of his zines. (I'm forgetful at the moment) We sat and talked for awhile and the time whizzed by. Finally, we went down stairs and Mrs. Lanz showed us (my parents and I) some of her freelance paintings. Well, finally we had to leave, so we shook hands, walked down to the driveway, and said our goodbyes, but only till the next day.

Continued on very next page.....

FANMEET IN PENN HILLS continued -

So, on Monday, August 14th, I called Marsh. Below is pretty much our conversation.

Bill: Marsh, this is Bill Wilson. I was at your house yesterday.
Marsh: Oh, hi!
Bill: I just wanted to ask a few questions about the con that I didn't get to ask yesterday. Do you have any sort of schedule, or will things just happen?
Marsh: Well no, I have no schedule at all.
Bill: About how much money should I bring, $5.00?
Marsh: Well, it depends on how much you want to spend.
Bill: Since your going to display your original art & comics, could I bring some old Superman 1940 strips over?
Marsh: Sure, bring 'em over.
Bill: Finally, I'd like to ask a question which has nothing to do with the con. I'd like to know if you would draw a cover for The Collector #3*4. All you'd have to do would be to draw a cover of a super hero, a comic hero, on 8½x11" paper & put at the top: THE COLLECTOR 3*4.
Marsh: Well, what size does it come out?
Bill: 5½x8½" and if you'll do it, & since you said you'd like to, I'll allow you to put a full page ad in the same issue. No need to hurry; maybe when I come on Friday I can see how it's comin' along.
Marsh: Well, I don't think I'll be able to do it this week, with the Charlton script and all.
Bill: That's OK, I just want to get it out by the end of August, so you'll still have plenty of time.
Marsh: OK, I'll do it!
Bill: Thanks, and I'll see ya' Friday.
Marsh: OK, and thanks alot!

So it was till Friday, the first day of the convention.

THE FIRST DAY

Arriving at the Lanz house at 12:30, I rang the doorbell. Marsh greeted me with a cheery hello and I was taken upstairs. There, for the first time, I met Bill Schelly (Sense of Wonder) and Chuck Rogers (Wizit) and were handed with copies of their publications, and they with mine. While looking at some of Chuck's original art, such fans as Dennis Palumbo and pro Jim Shooter strolled in. We had a great time; reading & exchanging comics and zines, drawing, writing, and mostly talking. Later, Bruce Dickson (of Philidelphia) and Larry Walczak (of Erie) joined the crowd. The time whizzed, and we soon found ourselves all in the Lanz car, off for McDonalds. After returning to the Lanz house, we continued our activities until my parents came for me at about 11:00. Then, all the way home I talked about the con, and what it was going to be like on the second day.

THE SECOND DAY

I arrived at the Lanz house again, this time at 2:30, and found everyone there already. I traded some comics and then talked with all the others. The night before I had started a master

for our one-shot conzine and I showed it to Marsh, and he said it was a pretty good illoe of Spy Smasher. Then, I sat down to the drawing board and finished the master of the original Green Lantern. Again, he thought it was pretty good. We talked and read; and talked and read until Mrs. Lanz came home at 5:00. We had a hot dog, some cake, & ginger ale. When we were done eating, we stayed in the dining room and thought up an amateur organization, F.A.CT., the Fantasy Art Collec Tors. We thought up benefits for membership and kept our ideas. Just before supper, we started the SLAUGHTER HOUSE column. Then we went down stairs to be treated to spaghetti and meatballs. After this delicious supper, we went back upstairs and continued our work. During this time, I traded twice and I bought an old YOUNG ALLIES with Bucky & Toro. With the sound of music in the background, we kept up our previous activities, until, alas, it was time to leave the con; not to return; for it had been a great two days with all of us there, but the third would be enjoyed by only a few.

FINIS

Because of some unfortunate circumstances, the entire con did not go exactly as planned. There was no Ronn Foss movie for the simple reason that Ronn Foss did not send it. Raymond Miller, popular fan in Fandom, couldn't attend because I believe his father had pneumonia. Dave Esser, Dick Flinchbaugh, & Ben Sokolowski couldn't attend for obvious reasons. All in all though, it was truly a great fanmeet/con, and in my opinion, anyone who missed it should regret having missed the first convention of this type to ever be held in the entire state of Pennsylvania. Next year, if it's organized properly, the con will be bigger and better. Remember! It's almost the next best thing to the Big Academy con. Try to attend next year, by all means, and you just might meet me there!

The very best,

Bill G. Wilson

Bill G. Wilson
Editor
Publisher

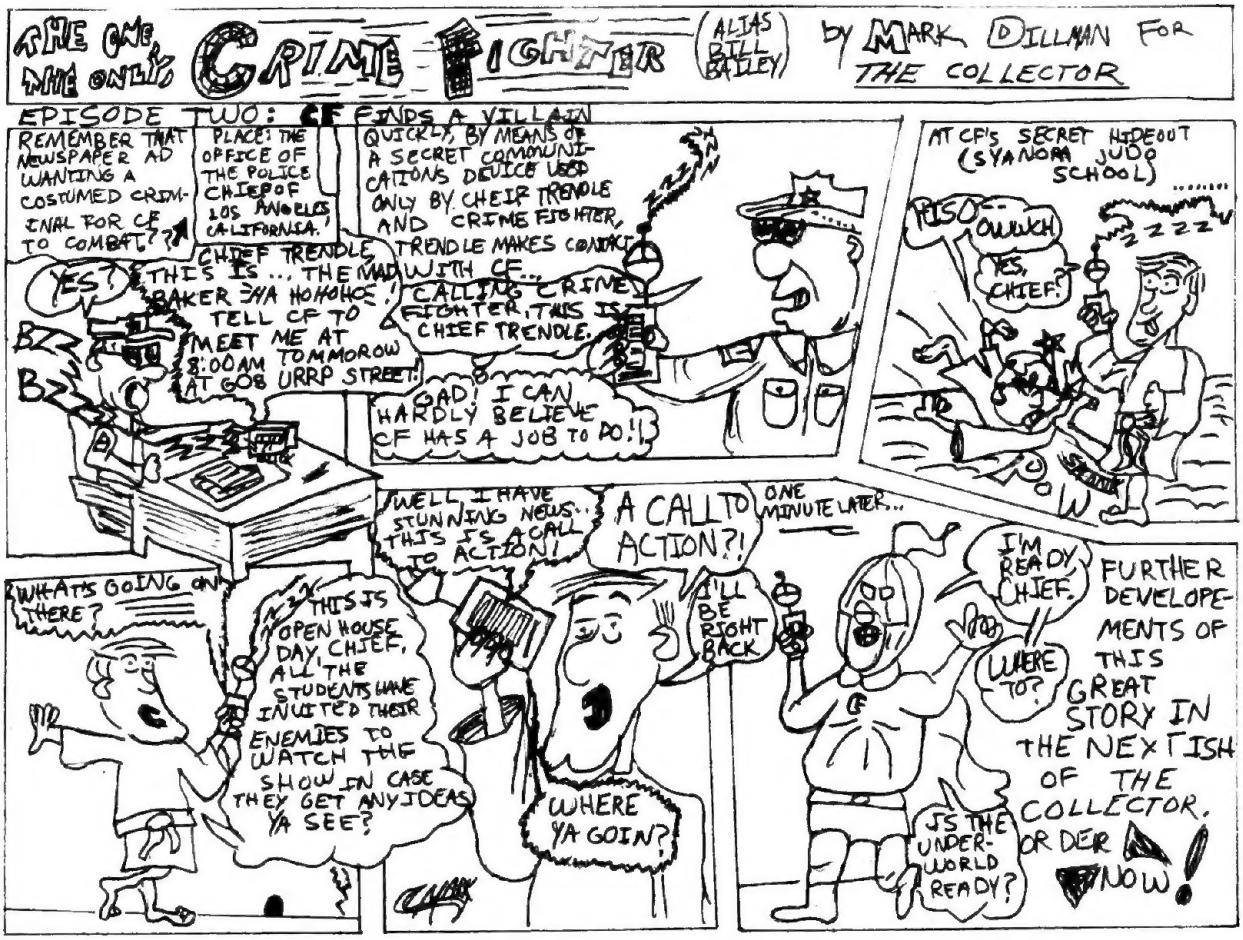
PLEASE DO NOT ORDER THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE COLLECTOR YET. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF PRICE AND FEATURES.

THE ONE AND THE ONLY CRIME FIGHTER (ALIAS BILL BAILEY) BY MARK DILLMAN FOR THE COLLECTOR

EPISODE THREE: GET THE MAD BAKER

REMEMBER— CF HAD BEEN CALLED TO ACTION TO COMBAT THE DREADFUL MAD BAKER ----
HOLD YOUR HORSES, CRIME FIGHTER, YOU ARE TO MEET THE MAD BAKER ... IN THE MORNING AT 8:00 AT 608 URRP STREET.
NEXT MORNING, 7:55. PLACE: BILL BAILEY'S ROOM AT THE SYANORA JUDO SCHOOL.
SECRET CLOSET
GAD!! I'M LATE. I MUST CAPTURE ... THE MAD BAKER... AT 8:00!
WELL, YOU SHOULD AT LEAST SAY "EXCUSE ME" WHEN YOU URRP! I SAID URRP STREET, DUMMY!
A BATTERY OF RAYS DEVELOPED BY THE ODD BUT BRILLIANT DR. ZAKA FILL THE BODY OF BILL BAILEY, OWNER-MANAGER OF THE SYANORA JUDO SCHOOL GIVING HIM POWERS UNKNOWN TO ANY ONE ELSE. THEY EVEN CAUSE A CHANGE IN HIS PHYSICAL APPEARANCE.
IS THE UNDER-WORLD READY?
WITH THOSE WORDS, CF THROWS STARK FEAR IN THE MINDS OF EVIL MEN EVERY-WHERE!
"GET THE MAD BAKER" HE SAYS TO HIMSELF.
GET THE MAD -- WAIT A MINUTE -- WHERE?! YEAH -- I'LL CALL THE CHIEF. HE'LL KNOW.
CALLING CHIEF TRENDLE
THIS IS THE CHIEF. WHAT IS IT, CF?
WHERE'S... THE MAD BAKER? I FORGOT!
8-9
GASP! CF SEEMS TO BE LOSING HIS MEMORY! COULD IT BE THAT HE NEVER HAD A MEMORY? HOWEVER, THE MAD BAKER IS MIGHTY HARD TO COME IN CONTACT WITH! RIGHT?
WHAT DOES THE MAD BAKER LOOK LIKE? MAYBE WE'LL FIND OUT IN THE NEXT EPI-SODE. TO BE CONTINUED...

(rotated b


THE ONE, THE ONLY, CRIME FIGHTER (ALIAS BILL BAILEY) BY MARK DILLMAN FOR THE COLLECTOR
EPISODE TWO: CF FINDS A VILLAIN
REMEMBER THAT NEWSPAPER AD WANTING A COSTUMED CRIMINAL FOR CF TO COMBAT??
PLACE: THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE CHIEF OF LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA.
CHIEF TRENDLE
YES?
BZZ BZZ
THIS IS... THE MAD BAKER SHA HOHOHOE! TELL CF TO MEET ME AT 8:00AM TOMMOROW AT 608 URRP STREET!
QUICKLY, BY MEANS OF A SECRET COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE USED ONLY BY CHEIF TRENDLE AND CRIME FIGHTER, TRENDLE MAKES CONTACT WITH CF...
CALLING CRIME FIGHTER, THIS IS CHIEF TRENDLE.
GAD! I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE CF HAS A JOB TO DO!!
AT CF'S SECRET HIDEOUT (SYANORA JUDO SCHOOL)
.....
PISO-
OWWWCH
YES, CHIEF?
ZZZZ
SPANK
WHAT'S GOING ON THERE?
THIS IS OPEN HOUSE DAY, CHIEF, ALL THE STUDENTS HAVE INVITED THEIR ENEMIES TO WATCH THE SHOW IN CASE THEY GET ANY IDEAS YA SEE?
WELL, I HAVE STUNNING NEWS... THIS IS A CALL TO ACTION!
A CALL TO ACTION?!
WHERE YA GOIN?
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK
ONE MINUTE LATER...
I'M READY, CHIEF.
WHERE TO?
IS THE UNDERWORLD READY?
FURTHER DEVELOPEMENTS OF THIS GREAT STORY IN THE NEXT ISH OF THE COLLECTOR. OR DER NOW!

by Ken)

THE misguided GIANT

ARTICLE:
Rick Howe

ART:
Bill Wilson

I have often heard it said that Charlton is one of the smaller publishing companys in the business. This is not at all true. If you want to count all of Charlton's war comics, westerns and romance magazines, you will find they have an impressive array of titles. In fact, CDC is weak in only 2 fields of comics; humor and super-hero.

Their lack of humor comics doesn't bother anyone. The average comic reader will say, "If I want funny comics, I'll buy the Archie or Harvey." But their failure to produce a super-hero of any importance is another matter. It is disheartening to see all of Charlton's vast resources directed into cowboy and soldier storys.

This probably doesn't bother the Charlton brass in the least. They are the acknowledged leaders in both war and romance comics, and probably westerns too. But the best selling books on the stands are the super-hero ones, so it seems only natural that the former editor, Pat Masulli, should put more effort in this direction.

Not that he didn't try; throughout the early 1960's he made many attempts to introduce a lasting super-hero magazine to the public, with no success. Inevitably he found it was FIGHTIN' ARMY and OUTLAWS OF THE WEST that people were buying. So as time went on, he became less and less inclined to take a chance on new adventure magazines. And no wonder: Masulli had seen effort after effort fall far short of success. KONGA almost made it; so did CAPTAIN ATOM. But in the end, these, like all the others, ended in failure.

There are, of course, logical reasons why CAPTAIN ATOM, KONGA, GORGO, and all the rest failed. For the main part, their storys adhered to rigidly to realism and did not give play to enough fantasy and imagination. They were cut and dried, characters devoid of most human characteristic, plots lacking in originality. Many of their storys read not unlike a school textbook. So while many an unwary reader was seduced into reading them once for their high-quality artwork, few ever made this mistake twice. For the serious minded war buff, this strictly realistic approach was desirable, but it held no appeal for the free-minded science fiction fan.

By 1964, Charlton had withdrawn almost completely from the super-hero business. By this time, both DC and Marvel were approaching their peaks of success. Masulli decided to play it safe and let his war books carry the ball.

It was not long after this that CDC employed a new assistant editor, Dick Giordano. Giordano was an enthusiastic super-hero fan from way back, and he coaxed Masulli to let him try a new line of adventure magazines. Reluctantly, Pat Masulli released the new CAPTAIN ATOM, FIGHTING FIVE, AND BLUE BEETLE. The selection of these three titles shows fairly good logic.

Both Captain Atom and the Blue Beetle had been in comics before, and therefore might already have a few fans, and the Fighting Five was just a costumed group of soldiers which Masulli must have hoped would please both the army fans and the adventure readers. But these magazines were in reality no better than any of Charlton's previous failures, and all three probably would have faded into oblivion, if not for the hard work of Dick Giordano.

Faced with stiff competition, Giordano acquired Steve Ditko, the extremely popular SPIDERMAN artist. Apparently, some of Stan Lee's writing ability rubbed off on Ditko, for he soon began writing his own scripts for CAPTAIN ATOM and other strips.

Next, he turned to comic fandom for the helpful talents of Roy Thomas, who started writing Mysterys of Unexplored Worlds with Son Of Vulcan.

Under his excellent care, both CAPTAIN ATOM and the BLUE BEETLE began to grow in popularity. Letters from beaming readers encouraged the two editors, and Masulli gave Giordano free reign over the science fiction publications. Son of Vulcan and Fightin Five were doomed from the start, and Giordano lost Roy Thomas before he had a chance to show his real value.

Under Giordano's leadership, a new style of writing has been introduced into Charlton. Writers began to show new originality in plots without losing the fresh taste of reality. They made their biggest fault into a virtue. The storys achieved high standards of excitement without depending too much on space monsters, men from other dimensions, and super-heroes who got their powers from radioactive waste material, rays, etc. Even their artwork, which had long been among the best, seemed to improve.

But Charlton had started its climb from too low down. As always when a comic company trys something new, there had to be casualtys, and CDC had more than its share of them. MYSTERYS OF UNEXPLORED WORLDS DIED EARLY. THE BLUE BEETLE, for whom Giordano must have had a lot of hope, did not last long. THE FIGHTING FIVE and a new one, SARGE STEEL, which was very good, were both discontinued. And, doubtless, there will be many more. But there is some consolation in these defeats. In every case except that of Son of Vulcan, the heroes showed promise. Most of them could be redeveloped into fine filler storys for the magazines that survived.

Of these, CAPTAIN ATOM is the best. For a long time, he stood balanced on the borderline between success and failure. But with constantly improving storys (now written by Comic Academy president David Kaler) it worked its way into the number one position on the Charlton line up. The magazine is developing into a real hit with the Charlton fans. Especially since two major changes were introduced in issue 83. One was his new costume. Now instead of the old yellow wool costume, he fights crime in a red and blue one, his arms covered by a metal coating which literally grows right out of his skin. His new costume looks a lot better than the old one. The second change was the first appearance of the new Blue Beetle. Unlike most first appearances, this one did not include his origin. This new Blue Beetle is a very mysterious character, and no one seems to know much about his background (Apparently not even the writer, Gary Friedrich). This format seems to be appealing to the fans, for in a very short time since his first story in CAPTAIN ATOM #83, he has graduated into his own comic book.

Then came the nit new comic of the year, THUNDERBOLT. This is written by an advertising man (so I've heard) who writes and draws the strip under the pseudonym of PAM. This phoney name does not appear to be a gimmick like you would expect. It looks like PAM really does want to remain anonymous. But the important thing is not who writes it, it is what is written. THUNDERBOLT is easily the best thing that Charlton is putting out. In THUNDERBOLT, PAM uses a sophisticated approach to the super-hero business, and there is an amount of philosophy and descriptive language that most cartoonists tend to shy away from. However, Giordano made a mistake in using the Sentinels for a second feature in THUNDERBOLT. These three super-heroes are exactly the opposite of T-Bolt. They seem to be imitating the Marvel style, with heroes getting all wrapped up in personal problems, punny humor, etc. It is not a very good strip. But they can be ignored, and the fact remains that THUNDER*BOLT is an excellent comic magazine.

So the Charlton publishing company has really improved. They are no where near the top, but they are headed in that direction. They still have problems. Giordano has the bad habit of repeating old failures time and again. There is still a tendency toward the text-book style of writing. In PEACEMAKER for example, all storys start out promising, but usually wind up in an army type battle between peace-maker and the villian, who always has either a mustache or a beard or both. But Giordano is the energetic type, and I feel we can count on him to correct these faults.

But all is not bright on the horizon. There is a rub. Charlton comics are being written with high standards, designed to please the serious comic reader. Unfortunately, serious comic readers are in the minority. Most of fandom is made up of serious fans, but even if they all supported THUNDERBOLT and CAPTAIN ATOM, which they don't, that would only be about 2000 readers. Throw in another two or three thousand readers who are intellectual enough to go for these comics, and you still get only 5000. A comic mag needs about 200,000 readers to survive on the professional market.

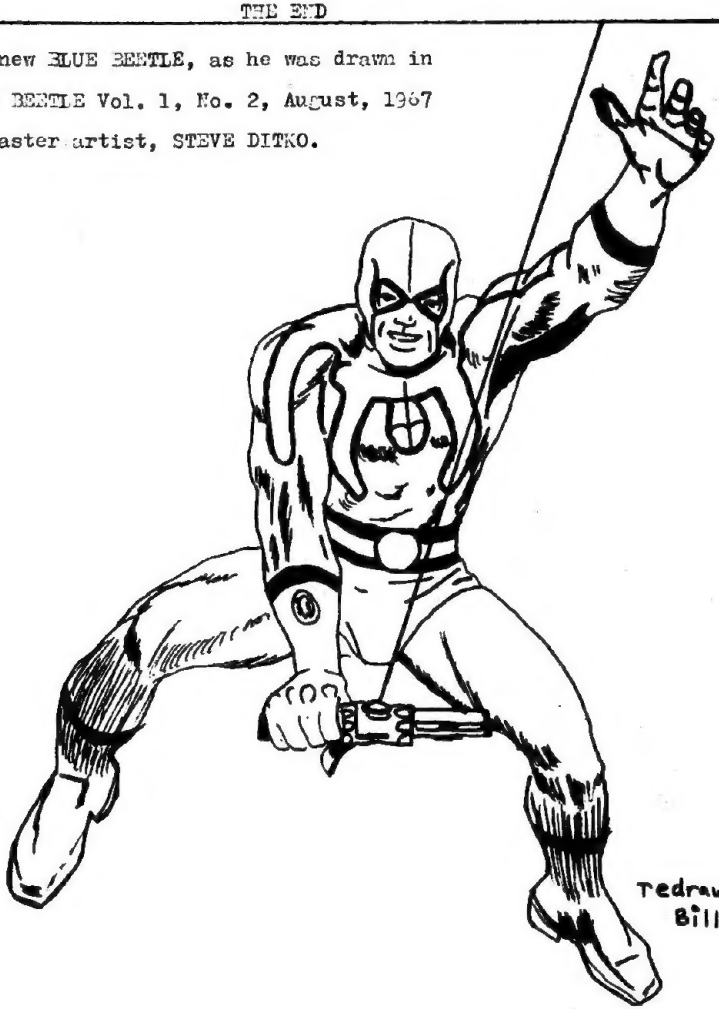
Which means that THUNDERBOLT and the rest are doomed. Though the 5000 fans they will win will be enthusiastic with their praise and buy the comics more regularly than the mass public would have, THUNDERBOLT will lose money and sooner or later be discontinued.

There is some hope. The writers could play up the light scenes and keep the plot simple, inject slang phrases periodely through the scripts, and make jokes between each panel. Charlton may possibly do that, to keep from going out of business. But it will first have to recognize what the problem is, which might be harder than you suspect. The hypothetical 5000 Charlton fans will all be dedicated comic collectors, which means that they will be more inclined to write letters than the mass public. They will write letters complimenting CDC on their sophisticated and intellectual comic strips. Charlton, thinking that the people like this, will not want to change it, when in reality this is what will be causing the trouble. Besides, even if someone does tell Dick Giordano what the trouble is, he may not want to lower the standards of his magazines to the average people level, even if not to do so means failure for the CDC adventure line.

Right now Charlton, the misguided giant of publishers, is right up among Marvel and DC titles in terms of quality. But it appears that their success will be short-lived. I, for one, am going to enjoy it while it lasts, but I am not going to be fooled complimentary letter columns and the full approval of fandom into thinking that Charlton is really successful. Charlton may be closer to making a name for itself now than it ever has been before, but the financial laws will kill it in the end.

THE END

The new BLUE BEETLE, as he was drawn in BLUE BEETLE Vol. 1, No. 2, August, 1967 by master artist, STEVE DITKO.



Redrawn by Bill Wilson

BATGIRL!

Article & art by Editor Bill G. Wilson

First of all, I must begin by saying that this article is not as long as it might have been for two main reasons. 1)Because as I write this Batgirl has only appeared in three comics & has'nt appeared on TV yet & 2) Because with the photos & pics below, I don't have enough room.

oOo oOo oOo oOo

"Batgirl", as we know her today, made her debut in DETECTIVE COMICS #359, Jan. 1967. She is in reality Barbara Gordon, librarian & daughter of Police Commissioner Gordon, who originally sewed up the "Batgirl" outfit for a police-man's masquerade ball. As she drove along a suburban highway, she saw hoodlums attacking Bruce Wayne, and lept out of the car to save him. Thus, Batgirl was born. Since this, she has appeared in DETECTIVE COMICS #363 and partially in WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #169. To top it off, Batgirl, portrayed by Yvonne Craig, will debut on the BATMAN TV show this fall. Well, what next?

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Below and to the side you will see photos & illoes of Batgirl. To the left & directly below are two photos of Miss Craig in her costume. You may note the changes in the costume, but for the most part, the designers have made "Batgirl" appear as she is in the comics. To the right & below are two illoes of Batgirl as she appears in the comics. Compare these illoes with the photos and you will see I'm right with the above statement.

-----END-----

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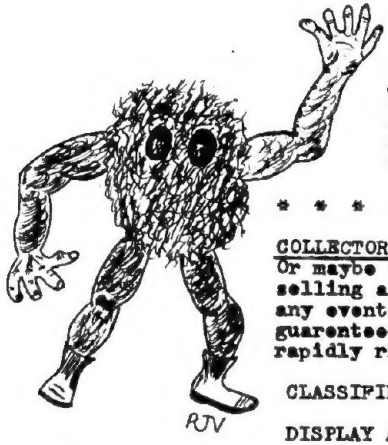

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From the Spirit by Will Eisner

June 2, 1940

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